Year-wise target dates of completion are as indicated below:—

Year	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	Remark
Projects due for completion	6	4	4	4	7	8	6	Till 1990-91 39 projects were due for completion.

Year	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	
Projects due for completion	9	6	7	11	4	2	4	43 projects are due to be completed by 1997-98

pletion by March, 1992 has been completed ahead of schedule.

(c) 54 projects are under various stages of implemention and out of these 17 projects are slipping in implementation. 12 of the slipping projects were already due for completion by 1990-91 and 5 others, though scheduled for completion beyond 1990-91, are now anticipated to be delayed.

(d) 7 projects are delayed due to constraints in land acquisition and rehabilitation, 3 due to delay in supply of equipment and failure of equipment 3 due to adverse geo-mining condition 2 due to delay in sinking of shafts and drivage of inclines, one due to procedural delay in finalising foreign collaboration agreement and one due to delay in construction of coal handling plant.

उत्तर प्रदेश बिजली बोर्ड की ओर कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड की बकाया धनराशि

1655. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या कोयला मंत्री 2 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 939 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि आज की स्थिति के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य बिजली बोर्ड की ओर कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड की कितनी धनराशि बकाया है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० नयमेगौड़ा) : राज्य विद्युत बोर्ड की ओर कोयला की बिक्री की कुल बकाया देय राशि से संबंधित दिनांक 30-9-1991 की स्थिति के अनुसार सूचना उपलब्ध हुई है । इस उपलब्ध जानकारी के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य बिजली बोर्ड की ओर कोयल की बिक्री की कुल बकाया राशि 542.10 करोड़ रु० की थी ।

Increase in the production of Coal

1656. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total requirement of coal in India district-wise as per Government's estimates;

(b) what efforts Government have made to increase the production of coal to meet its requirement;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the coal companies are not making full utilisation of their production capacity; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Demand for coal is assessed only consumer-wise and not district-wise. The total coal demand in the country during the year 1991-92 is of the order of 239.10 million tonnes of raw coal.

(b) In order to meet the increased demand of coal various steps have been taken to increase coal production by opening new mines, re-organising the existing mines to achieve optimum level of production and by better management of men and machinery.

(c) and (d) The capacity utilization of coal industry in the country has been 89 per cent for Coal India Ltd. and 84 per cent for Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. in 1990-91.

Privatisation of coal mines

1657. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:

SHRI RANJIT SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has been pressuring India to open up the new coal mining areas to the private sector for developmet as reported in the Hindustan Times of 24th November, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether in view of serious resources crunch with Government, there is any plan to privatise the coal sector; and

(e) if so the details thereof including the number and criteria for issuing licences?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NAYMAGOUDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) It has been suggested that new coal based thermal power plants may be allowed their own captive coal mines. The Government is yet to take a view on this suggestion.

Recognition of Hindi by Foreign Countries

1658. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign countries that have recognised that Hindi language; and

(b) whether any country or countries outside India have instituted litterary awards for the promotion of Hindi language; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) While Hindi is widely used in several foreign countries, we are not aware of any country having recognised Hindi as its official language.

(b) Mauritius has started as literary award in November, 1991 for promotion of Hindi. This award is called "Sahitya Puraskar" and is awarded by the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in Mauritius. Information has been asked for from other Missions and will be submitted to the House in due course.

Indian Prisoners in Iraq

1659. SHRI JAGDISH JANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indians are missing from Kuwait;

(b) whether they have been taken hostage by Iraqi forces when they abandoned Kuwait at the end of Gulf war; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to release these Indians from